Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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P R 161727Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8574 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO SAIGON IF MINIMIZE CRITERIA PERMIT

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, VS SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ' CONVERSATION WITH PRG REP IN PARIS

REF: GENEVA 2535

1. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ CALLED ON PHAM VAN BA, HEAD OF PRG PERMANENT MISSION IN PARIS (AND PRG OFFICE IN GENEVA), AT PRG PARIS OFFICE MORNING OF APRIL 16 FOR DISCUSSION OF HUMANITARIAN MATTERS, PARTICULARLY PRG VIEWS ON REFUGEES. SOLARZ, WHO MADE THE CALL UNACCOMPANIED AND WITHOUT EMBASSY ASSISTANCE, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS LATER THAT BA HAD STRESSED THAT THOSE VIETNAMESE WHO WISH TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY WILL BE ALLOWED TO DO SO FREELY. PRG WILL ACTIVELY ASSIST THOSE WISHING TO LEAVE. THOSE WHO WISH TO STAY WILL NOT BE MISTREATED AND CAN KEEP THEIR PRESENT JOBS. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WILL COME QUICKLY, AND THERE WILL BE NO BLOODBATH. HOWEVER, IF US SENDS IN ARMED FORCES ON PRETEXT OF HELPING EVACUATE REFUGEES, US WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSEQUENCES.

2. SOLARZ BELIEVES THAT USG SHOULD CONTACT PRG AND TEST THEIR WILLINGNESS TO FACILITATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ORDERLY EVACUATION FROM VIETNAM OF THOSE VIETNAMESE CONFIDENTIAL

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WHO WISH TO LEAVE. FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON

APRIL 17, SOLARZ MAY SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB OR THE SECRETARY TO REPORT ON HIS MEETING WITH BA.

3. COMMENT. AS WITH CONGRESSMAN FRASER (REFTEL), BA APPARENTLY MADE A SKILLFUL PRESENTATION, PROFESSING PRG GOOD WILL AND CONCILIATORY INTENTIONS. STONE

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED.

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